

# STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



## Richard Stockton College of NJ, New Jersey's Green College, Scores Impressively in Nationwide Sustainability Report Card

Ranks Tops Among New Jersey Public Colleges in Sustainable  
Endowments Institute Annual Survey

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**GALLOWAY TWP NJ-** The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey earned high marks in the Sustainable Endowments Institute's *Sustainability Report Card*. Stockton's overall grade was the top score among the New Jersey public higher education institutions that participated.

Stockton, located in New Jersey's protected Pinelands National Reserve and long a model for "green" initiatives nationwide, rated an "A" for its use of energy in relation to climate change. Home to one of the world's largest closed-loop geothermal heating and cooling systems for its buildings, the College also employs Aquifer Thermal Energy Storage technology, energy efficient lighting, timers on temperature controls and numerous other techniques. Ten percent of the College vehicle fleet is comprised of electric cars and six percent of electricity is purchased from a solar array located on campus.

"As New Jersey's Green College, we had an expectation to do well on this report card," Stockton President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr. said. "We are pleased to have done well overall, and we are clearly focused on the areas where we can do an even better job."

The report card is compiled from information provided voluntarily by the institutions. In all, 322 colleges and universities participated nationwide in the extensive survey. It graded such factors as faculty and administration initiatives, climate change and energy, food and recycling, green building, student involvement, and transportation. It was Stockton's first year participating in the survey. "We consider our grade to be a good base line to evaluate where we stand nationally and how we might strive for continued improvement," Dr. Saatkamp said. **-more-**

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The aim is to provide accessible information so that schools may learn from each other's experiences, thereby fostering more effective sustainability policies. The report assesses 52 indicators, from green building initiatives to recycling programs to endowment investment policies, and uses an A to F letter-grading system to evaluate performance.

According to the website of the Sustainable Endowments Institute, the new *Report Card* is the most comprehensive edition produced to date. In addition to profiles for the 322 participating schools, 1,100 full survey responses were received, comprising more than 10,000 pages of data.

Stockton dining services were lauded for obtaining 20 percent of its food from local sources and for serving 100 percent "cage free" eggs. Sustainably harvested seafood, fair trade coffee in all dining locations and discounts for students, faculty and staff using reusable mugs were cited.

Stockton is currently undergoing the largest number of construction projects since the campus opened in 1971. The new 154,000-sq. ft. Campus Center is registered for LEED review and is expected to receive LEED certification (as did new campus sustainability-themed Living Learning Communities and the renovation of a major wing). The College's storm water runoff reduction measures, including retention ponds, underground infiltration structures and vegetative and stone swales, were also noted.

Stockton's initial Sustainability Committee was lauded in the report particularly for its greenhouse gas emissions inventory, and the College was noted for having a formal policy on sustainability purchasing and for making sustainability one of the major themes of its facilities master plan and strategic plan.

Student involvement cited in the report card included Stockton Action Volunteers for the Environment (SAVE), New Jersey's oldest student run organization of its kind. Students embrace carbon-neutral transportation on campus bicycles, and receive a 25 percent discount when they utilize New Jersey Public Transit, which also operates free campus shuttle buses.

For more information including the complete set of *Report Card* data, visit [www.greenreportcard.org](http://www.greenreportcard.org).

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